



Eye ON AMC South West Asia

Army Materiel Command, Forward Support Brigade, South West Asia

Volume 1 Issue 1

September 2005

CG visits Arifjan for Mission briefs

AMC general gets up-date and path forward from theater commanders

The Commanding General of the Army Materiel Command made a brief visit to Camp Arifjan August 7-8 to receive mission briefings on current operations in theater.

Gen. Benjamin S. Griffin arrived via helicopter and was driven to the new humvee refurbishment center near Camp Arifjan for a tour of the facility and briefings on operations.

Maj. Gen. Jerome Johnson, commanding general of the Army Field Support Command, Brig. Gen. Kevin Leonard, AMC commanding general SWA, and his soon-to-be replacement, Brig. Gen. Raymond V. Mason, from the Defense Supply Center, Defense Logistics Agency, Philadelphia, Penn., accompanied Griffin.

Col. Charles Wilson, commander of the Army Forward Support Brigade and his staff briefed the AMC chief on the Brigade mission.

The AFSBn-Kuwait provided a tour of Sunshade 2 on the second day of the visit, where the general received briefs on operations in Qatar, Afghanistan, Iraq and Kuwait.

At the end of the Sunshade tour, Griffin thanked the AMC work force for their service in theater.

"Every time I come here I am more impressed with what



AMC Commanding General Benjamin Griffin returns a salute at his helicopter arrival to Camp Arifjan.



(L to R) Brig. Gen. Kevin Leonard, Brig. Gen. Raymond Mason, Gen. Benjamin Griffin and Col. Charles Wilson touring Sunshade Two.

I see. I think everyone knows this is a long fight. . . We must keep the coordination on what's done here with what's done in Afghanistan and Iraq," said the general.

Griffin said there is a vast amount of experience and knowledge coming out of what AMC is doing in theater.

"I challenge you all to keep striving and capture what you see here. We'll never replicate this in 50 years, the knowledge you're getting on how the vehicles perform," said Griffin.

"You represent a lot of folks in the civilian community. Thank them for what they do. They are doing a heck of a job. The HET and humvee programs are a prime example of how we are saving lives. They have increased the combat capability here. I am very proud of you. Hoo-ah!"



The Zone 6 AMC Village is beginning to look like a community. As soon as all the living quarters are placed, sewer, water and electrical hook-ups will begin.

“AMC Village” in placement phase

More than 50 of 131 housing containers, the future “AMC Village,” have arrived via truck convoy at Camp Arifjan for the Army Materiel Command’s work force; as the new housing program finally begins the placement phase prior to move-in.

“We’ve set up one container so that our work force will be able to actually see the living quarters and available space in each unit,” said supply chief Ryck Richards. The container is on the north end of Building 501, across the street from the G4 office. Some furniture has been added to the unit, however it is not the same furniture ordered per unit. It is only placed in the two rooms for one to see how much space will be available. All members of the Brigade are invited to walk through the structure.

Each container is 40 foot by 10 foot with 15 feet of living space per unit. Each air conditioned room will be equipped with a double bed, chair, desk, and ward robe closet. Other items on order are refrigerators, TV sets and microwave units, although there may be a time delay on their arrival here. The quarters are stacked double-high in four rows. “AMC Village,” will be a short walk across the street from the Zone 6 dining facility, Post Exchange area and food court.

Quiet privacy and an in-door restroom are the major positive aspects of this new housing initiative.

“We are in the process of negotiating with the contractor on electrical upgrades, water heaters and a few other smaller issues,” said Engineer Dave Sears.

The Army Corps of Engineers is gearing up to install the sewer system, electrical work, and the water system.



A sink is installed in each room with a shared restroom/shower between rooms. Each room will be equipped with a wall mounted heater/air conditioner.

Newsletter contest

After two consecutive contests to “name the newsletter” and review of the entries from Col. Charles Wilson, commander, and Mr. Robert Porter, his deputy, it was obvious that the entries submitted by the work force weren’t what the commander had mind.

The commander decided on *Eye On AMC South West Asia* as a fitting name.

The newsletter will attempt to provide the work force information on theater operations, and how our “family;” the Army Materiel Command and its subordinate commands, support the Soldier in theater. Work and personnel-related news will be included to keep you informed and safe during your deployment. The newsletter is sent to the “AMC family” in Qatar, Kuwait, and Afghanistan.

The Editor welcomes comments and news from your unit. If you have a suggestion on a contest to rid the Editor of the \$75 gift certificate, Please e-mail to: charles.sprague@arifjan.arcent.army.mil, along with all suggestions and comment.

G-1 UPDATE

By Dee Winston,
G-1 Chief of Operations



Update your Emergency Database

As a result of the lessons learned from the 9/11 terrorist attacks, the Army has developed an automated emergency contact data base system to enable the Personnel Office to contact family members of civilian employees who are injured or killed.

Registration in the Emergency Contact Database is not mandatory; however, it is important—especially for those civilians deployed.

In the event of a natural or man-made catastrophe, or a casualty in a war zone, the contact information for registered employees will be readily available to assist in contacting family or specified individuals.

Some are concerned about entering private data into this system. This information will only be accessed for an emergency. Only a select few in the Civilian Resource Management Agency and Headquarters, Department of the Army have access. This information is not accessible to managers and supervisors.

Create or up-date your information by visiting CPOL on the Web at: <http://cpol.army.mil>

When you return stateside

Headquarters, AMC has issued new guidelines for administrative leave for those returning from SWA deployment.

“Upon receiving notification from an employee of his/her specific return date from deployment, the supervisor will grant the employee up to three days of administrative leave or up to 48-hour military pass as applicable, immediately prior to the individual’s actual resumption of assigned duties. The administrative leave or military pass must be used in a single continuous period and may not be accumulated for use at a later date. The following amounts of time are authorized:

- Deployed (in theater) 30 to 60 days-1 duty day for civilians, Regular (24-hour) pass for military.
- Deployed (in theater) 61 to 120 days-2 duty days for civilians, Special (48-hour) pass for military.
- Deployed (in theater) over 120 days-3 duty days for civilians, a Special (72-hour) pass for military.
- Deployment times are based on time in-theater (boots on the ground), only and does not include time spent at the CONUS Replacement Center (CRC) or in a traveling status.

The issue of military passes must comply with the provision of AR 600-8-10.



Contract workers up-armor operations on a 5-ton truck at the Patriot Performance Materials Inc. Site near Arifjan.

Add on Armor Program notes

By Lt. Col. Joe Bartley
AoA Program Manager



August was a record month for the Add on Armor (AoA) program in theater. The facilities at Mosul and Speicher were completed in late July and, despite some problems, there has been continuous improvement at those sites.

Previously, the record for vehicle armor installations was 990 during April. In August, there were almost 1,400 AoA installations on medium and heavy tactical vehicles.

The AoA program received several new personnel in August.

Air Force personnel in Balad and the Norfolk Naval personnel have been approved for extension in order to ensure AoA continues on schedule.

The AoA sites had several distinguished visitors in last month. Capt. Campbell, commander of Norfolk Naval Shipyard, visited Sunshade 6 and presented several workers with Meritorious Naval Civilian Service Awards. The incoming and outgoing Program Executive Officer, Combat Service and Combat Service Support (Brig. Gen. O'Reilly and Brig. Gen. Bartley), and incoming Program Manager, Tactical Vehicles (Col. Kidd), visited several of the AoA sites and briefed current programs.

Notes from the Editor



Greetings AMC SWA!

I'm Chuck Sprague, last name pronounced like spray with an egg! I'm the recently-assigned Public Affairs Officer for AMC SWA at Camp Arifjan. Many of you have seen me wandering around the personnel office waiting for the Battle Update Brief to begin, or at my desk in Building 506, Bay 3, with the rest of the Public Affairs personnel assigned here.

I'm here as a volunteer Army civilian PAO from Utah's Deseret Chemical Depot, part of AMC's Chemical Materials Agency out of Aberdeen, Md., my location is in Utah's West Desert.

The chemical weapons storage site is 18 miles south of Tooele Army Depot and about 40 miles east of Dugway Proving Ground.

My job here is to tell AMC's story. I want to get the word back to the states on how the military, Army civilians and contractors work hard, long hours over here in support of the Soldier in SWA. I do this in news releases and feature stories spotlighting what you all do so professionally. I'd like photos of you doing your work and send a story to your local newspaper.

I also plan to contribute articles to *Eye On AMC South West Asia* keeping my ear low to the ground looking for your unit's accomplishments and human interest stories. If you know of a worker here in Theater with a unique hobby, profession or accomplished something you think everyone should know about, please contact me at 430-6335, my cell, 788-6467, or send me an e-mail message.

Battalion Staffs at Qatar, Afghanistan and Arifjan; please support this effort by sending me your accomplishments and milestones so that the entire AMC SWA family knows what you've done! Be safe, AMC! Let me help you tell your story!

Looking ahead to the Holiday Season, the Arifjan CFLCC Public Affairs team will start recording video greetings to send to US Television markets for broadcast between Thanksgiving Day and New Years Day. Watch for announcements in the *Desert Voice* on the time and place to tape these messages to your family and friends in the states.

Editor

Submit R&R requests now for Oct, Nov

If you are planning an R&R Leave or Pass for October or November, you are required to submit forms DA-31 for military, or SF-71 for civilians to G-1 no later than Friday, Sept. 12.

This applies to AMC military and civilians only. Call the Personnel Office if you have questions at 430-4644/4643.

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Sgt. Amy Arneson, Aberdeen, S.D., deployed with the 295th Ordnance Company, prepares a sample of explosive granules for the Near Infrared Propellant Scanner now deployed to the Southwest Asia Theater. Instructor Louis Kansas, Picatinny Arsenal, N.J., shows Arneson how to place explosive granules into the sample box prior to analysis.

New explosive analysis technology now in Theater

Military and civilian ammunition specialists are training on two state-of-the-art battlefield devices to analyze Army explosive material for ordnance workers in Southwest Asia.

The test units were developed by the Defense Ammunition Center McAlister, Okla., with its partners, The Army Research and Development Engineering Command and Geo-Centers, Inc. These units provide another safety net to ammunition workers deployed in Iraq, Afghanistan and Kuwait, said Jim Medley. Medley is deployed at Camp Arifjan as a quality assurance specialist, ammunition surveillance (QASAS), from the McAlister headquarters.

"Instead of having to pull samples, send them back to labs in the states, and wait for the results, which can take up to six weeks, we know in a matter of just a few minutes whether the explosive stabilizer in our munitions meet safety requirements," said Medley.

The other unit now operating in theater scans explosive material and determines the type of explosive by analyzing the "light spectrum foot print" of the chemicals within the explosive, said Medley. A probe is placed on the test material. "It will tell you if the material is explosive or not, and what kind, such as TNT or RDX," he said.

The field units are designed to test all Army and Coalition Forces munitions, identify old Iraqi munitions and assist ordnance disposal professionals to determine explosive hazards through the Army Materiel Command's Army Forward Support Brigade, Southwest Asia.



A congressional delegation toured the Arifjan Forward Repair Activity on August 16. The site is one of many where Army tactical vehicles are up-armored and repaired prior to transport back to Iraq. (L to R) Representative Henry Cuellar, 28th District, Texas, Mr. Brad Knox, House Small Business Committee, Charlie Dent, 15th District, Pa., Steve King, 5th District, Iowa, Brig. Gen. Kevin Leonard, AMC Commander SWA, and Michael Burgess, 26th District, Texas.

Dignitaries Tour

Congressional Representatives, a lead House committee staffer and the principal deputy for the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, toured the Arifjan Forward Repair Activity (FRA) on August 16.

Representatives Steve King: 5th District, Iowa, Henry Cuellar, 28th District, Texas, Charles Dent; 15th District, Pennsylvania, Michael Burgess; 26th District, Texas, Mr. Bradley Knox; principal staff member of the House Small Business Committee, and Mr. Dean Popps, the principal deputy, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, were shown where engines and transmissions are rebuilt and where Army tactical vehicles are up-armored by FRA Team.

Brig. Gen. Kevin Leonard, AMC's commanding general theater forward, conducted the tour.

AMC has overall responsibility for all of the Army's pre-positioned equipment inventory and repair.

Commander's Corner

Army Field Support Brigade and Logistics Support Element Southwest Asia had a busy year and we accomplished our missions and met our goals.

The survival, supply and sustainment of Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and Airmen throughout the theater were accomplished through your contributions. We've come through a lot and will face a lot more in the months ahead.

I need continued focus as we look in the face of Reception, Staging, Onward Movement, and Integration, the redeployment surge, APS 5 establishment, tactical wheeled vehicle refurbishment, and add on armor application. The work between now and April will be intense. I expect you as one team: Soldiers, government civilians and contractors, to live up to these challenges as you have always done.

Together we must continue to stay mission focused and safety conscious in all we do. I am holding all of us responsible for accident and incident avoidance.

Take care of yourself and your "battle buddy" and keep the pace by providing the most professional support possible to the force in the field!

Force Protection Antiterrorism

By John Guertin,
AFSB-SWA FP/AT Specialist



If you have been here in Theater for more than a day, you already know that we take security very seriously here. The threat of a terrorist strike is real and the best deterrent we can provide is maintaining a strong force protection/antiterrorism posture both on and off the installation. Everyone is aware of the measures that the installation employs to provide a safe and secure environment, but do you know what individual protective measures you can apply to be less of a target, both here and back home?

Most terrorist organizations employ military type tactics, techniques, and procedures. One of these techniques is to gather as much information about a possible target as possible. Terrorists have a significant need for information regarding the locations, routine, occupation, and home environments, and other points of leverage to use against their targets.

The most important individual protective measure that can be taken by military, civilians, and contractors alike is to develop personal habits and practices that discourage terrorist attempts to determine their nationality, profession, individual job responsibilities, their association with Department of Defense (DoD), and their overall importance to the DoD. Some of these individual protective measures are:

- Avoid routine behavior by not establishing trends. Some of the ways you can do this is by varying your route to and from work. You can also vary the time you arrive and leave work by at least 15-30 minutes.
- Maintain a low profile. Try to blend in and behave in public in a manner consistent with local customs. Do not wear distinctly American clothing items in public. If you can't look local, at least try not to look like American military by avoiding items like cowboy boots and hats, American flags, and shirts with phonetically spelled words like "Dawgs" or "Boyz". Don't carry backpacks or bags with military or American stickers or logos.
- Be attentive to your surroundings. Be alert to surveillance attempts or suspicious persons. Watch for sudden unexplained absence of local citizens as an early warning of a possible terrorist attack. Avoid public disputes or confrontations, especially while driving. Do not divulge your personal address, home phone number, or family information. Be especially cautious when talking in public and with local vendors or merchants.
- Memorize important locations and their phone numbers, such as the local police station, ambulance and hospital, and the US Embassy.

- Try to learn key phrases, such as "I need a policeman.", "I need a doctor.", "Where is the police station?", "Where is the hospital?"

By following these simple protective measures, your chances of being targeted by a terrorist will be minimized. In the next few months I will cover other protective measures for traveling and living here in SWA, and remember "Stay alert, stay alive."

Service members' Group Life Insurance Increases

The maximum level of SGLI was increased from \$250,000 to \$400,000 on Sept. 1. Anyone in service on September 1, 2005, had their coverage increased to \$400,000 even if they previously declined or elected lesser coverage.

If you still desire no coverage or lesser than the maximum coverage, you must go to the personnel office and re-elect no coverage or less than the maximum.

Increments in coverage begin at \$50,000 and continue up to \$400,000 in \$50,000 increments.

Service members in the Veterans Group Life Insurance Program prior to September 1 will not be affected, however all separating service members covered under SGLI on or after September 1, 2005, in an amount greater than \$250,000 will be able to convert to VGLI at the new higher level.

It's not a "free lunch" but affordable for the coverage. You'll have to pay 6.5 cents per \$100,000 worth of coverage. This is \$16.25 per month for \$250,000 coverage, or \$26.00 per month for the maximum \$400,000.

This program is for service members only and does not affect DoD civilian workers.

For more information, visit the website at: <http://www.insurance.va.gov>.



Tank Re-enlistment-The AFSBn Kuwait provided the special request for a tank, and AMC's Commanding General Forward, Brig. Gen. Kevin Leonard, gave Spc. John R. Western, El Centro, Calif., the oath of enlistment. Western is a personnel specialist with the 475th Quartermaster Group.



Chaplain's Corner

Greetings and Farewell!

Yes, my time has come to leave theater, as it will for all of us at some point. That date which once seemed so far away for me is now at hand, if not already come and gone by the time you read this.

It's funny how time works that way, sometimes speeding by like a bullet and at other times dragging along like a slug on the ground.

We all know that time itself continues at the same speed, but how we experience it changes from fast to slow

to somewhere in between. But regardless of how we see it, the time will come when we who serve in SWA will go home as well. It may be soon or far off, but that day will still come.

For me it has come, and Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Philip Chandler is replacing me here, using the same office and the same phone numbers.

Yes, that day will come for you as well, and it is also true that there are a number of days, if not weeks or months, between now and that day. How you view those days and what you do with those days will make all of the difference. By this I do not mean work itself, but rather with what you do with all of the time you have in each day.

If you use it to dwell on the negative parts of being in SWA (and there are negative parts to any place or any job), then you can really make your life here miserable.

On the other hand, if you can focus on the positive aspects (and there are positive aspects to every place and every job), you can have more enjoyable days until your time for returning comes.

The choice is yours, but I hope you seek to enjoy your time here. May God bless you all -I have enjoyed much and learned much from you as well.

Chaplain Larry Conway

COMMEL Parking

Due to the parking problems around the south and southeast sides of building 462, AFSB-SWA decided to assign reserved parking. As you may have noticed over the past two or three weeks, each stall has been alphabetized followed by a number.

Placards have been assigned to each section or activity residing in building 462. Each placard designates a particular stall for that vehicle to park. Place the parking pass on the dash of your vehicle. It needs to be in clear view to depict both Alpha character and number assigned.

Those individuals who do not have a work area / station within building 462, must park in the visitors parking area.

Visitor parking is located at the

south end of the parking lot or to the right as you enter the parking area. A one hour time frame is allocated for each of the visitor parking stalls slots.

If there are any questions about this assigned parking, contact G-4.



The Rumor Mill says that DA civilian employees no longer are required to turn in their DCUs at the CRC (Fort Bliss) when returning from deployment. The Editor contacted the Fort Bliss and Fort Benning CRC; both officially require uniform turn-in, so be prepared to turn in all uniforms.



Program your cell phone

Camp Arifjan does not have the 911 emergency communications system.

All personnel should program their cell phone by entering the Arifjan Military Police telephone number, 389-1343, for any police, fire or medical emergency. Name the emergency number "ICE" (In Case of Emergency).

Two Way Traffic

The north and south sides of the 500-series buildings are now two-way traffic. Please use caution when driving on the parking lot side of Building 505 and 506 next to the Security entry point where pedestrian traffic is heavy.

Also watch for pedestrians traveling to and from the Zone 2 dining hall.

Camp Doha Main Gate closed

The Main Gate (by the smoke stacks) to Camp Doha is permanently closed. All traffic entering and exiting Camp Doha will continue to enter through Gates 2 and 3 (fishing village road).

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Using the Arifjan Network

K drive

All photos taken by Public Affairs are posted on the “K” Drive for you to review, download, copy and e-mail home! A word of caution: The photos are high resolution, so either use the installed program “E-mail photos,” or send them one at a time as they are high resolution. To e-mail several photos, highlight (select) them, under the edit icon, click copy, then on the panel on your left, click e-mail photos, and the e-mail template will appear with the photos included.

To access the “K” Drive, go to My Computer and click “K Drive”, click AMC LSE, Click “PAO” and the previous week’s photos will be posted for your viewing. All newsletters are posted as well as AMC monthly publications.

G1 also posts the monthly up-dated phone directory for printing.



Camp Arifjan hosted “Operation Hardwood- Hoops with the Troops,” on August 28 to 31, featuring well-known NCAA basketball coaches. A tournament was held with teams representing each military camp in Kuwait. On their last day, Soldiers from the AFSB, Kuwait Battalion, invited the coaches to visit the Class VII yard for a chance to drive a tank. ESPN sponsored the event, which included Coach Tom Izzo, Michigan State; Mike Jarvis, Former head coach at St. John’s; Mark Gottfried, U of Alabama; Kelvin Sampson, Oklahoma University; Bobby Lutz, University of North Carolina at Charlotte; Bobby Cremins, former head coach at Georgia Tech and ESPN Analyst Jay Bilas. The battalion Soldiers are Sgt. 1st Class Jorge Guadian, Sgt. 1st Class Steve Rogers and Sgt. 1st Class Jon Gillis.



As of 12 SEPT 05

SEPTEMBER 2005

MWR USO/AFE ENTERTAINMENT CALENDAR



Until Every One Comes Home.™

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 OPERATION HARDWOOD DEP KUWAIT	2	3 HOLIDAY VINCE VAUGHN ARR KUWAIT (M&G TOUR)
4 VINCE VAUGHN - CP NAVISTAR, VIR, VIC	5 VINCE VAUGHN DEP IRAQ	6	7	8	9 VINCE VAUGHN RTN KUWAIT, 1930	10 VINCE VAUGHN DEP CONUS, 0140 LFOR - ARR KUWAIT EARLY
11 LFOR - CP BEUHRING, 1900	12 LFOR - CP VIRGINIA, 1900	13 LFOR - DEP IRAQ, TBD	14 SPIRIT AND BODY TOUR ARRIVE, 1925	15 SPIRIT AND BODY TOUR - ALI AL-SALEM AB 1130, ARIFJAN 1600	16 SPIRIT AND BODY TOUR DEP IRAQ, TBD	17
18 ALESTER WILD ARR KUWAIT 0440 SHOW - CP BEUHRING 1900	19 ALESTER WILD SHOW - ALI AL- SALEM, 1900	20 ALESTER WILD SHOW - ARIFJ Z-6, 1900	21 ALESTER WILD SHOW - CP VIRGINIA, 1900 DAVE ATTELL ARR KUWAIT	22 ALESTER WILD SHOW - CP VICTORY, 1900 DAVE ATTELL KNB, 1300 / CP ARIFJAN, 1900 LFOR - RTN KUWAIT, TBD	23 ALESTER WILD DEP BAH DAVE ATTELL CP VIRGINIA, 1300 / BEUHRING, 1900 LFOR - DEP CONUS, 0215	24 DAVE ATTELL ALI AL-SALEM, 1300 AB / CP VICTORY, 1900
25 DAVE ATTELL DEP UAE SPIRIT AND BODY - RTN KUWAIT, TBD	26 SPIRIT AND BODY TOUR - DEP CONUS, 0140	27	28	29	30	

AFSB-SWA Safety Message

Employees' Right to Know

By Esther Santos

Brigade Safety Officer



Employees have the right to know the properties and potential safety and health hazards of substances to which they may be exposed. Such knowledge is essential to reducing the risk of occupational illness and injury.

Hazard Communications Program has five components:

- Chemical Inventory
- Product Warning Labels
- Material Safety Data Sheets
- Written Hazard Communication Program
- Employee Training



Material safety data sheets (MSDS) must be readily available for employee review at all times the employee is in the work place. These sheets are provided by chemical manufacturers or importers and describe the chemical composition, characteristics, potential hazards, and other information of their product. With few exceptions, MSDSs for each product the employee uses or encounters in their work place must be readily accessible to them. With few exceptions, all unlabeled or unmarked bottles, containers, jars, etc. must be **labeled** according to the Hazardous Material Labeling System (HMLS).

HMLS labels are not mandatory for containers already provided with a manufacturer's label, but they are recommended. Buildings and laboratories must be marked or placarded as well using NFPA diamond or the Uniform Laboratory Hazard Signage system. Employees must receive annual **training** in hazard communications, and new employees must receive their initial training within the first 30 days of employment. This training must include information concerning the four components of the hazard communication program as well as site specific training on the chemicals/products actually used by the employee. Copies of your units **written program** (Hazard Communication Program) should be written, designed and made available to meet the federally mandated requirements of 29 CFR 1910, 1926, the Department of Defense Instructions DODI 6050.5, and the Department of Defense Hazard Communication Program.



"Look around you today and you see vehicles. Not just any vehicles, you see up-armored vehicles . . . All of those vehicles tell a story, and in some cases it's the story of men and women that were kept alive by the very fact that they were in an armored vehicle."
Brig. Gen. Kevin Leonard

